

(Milwaukee, WI)— Today Congresswoman Gwen Moore released the following statement:

“For a year, Americans have been asking where the plan is for the devastated Gulf Region? Where is the help? Where is the money? Billions of dollars have been approved and appropriated to clean-up and rebuild, and to aid those Americans who lost everything. A year later, \$2 billion of it has been squandered due to fraud, waste, and mismanagement, and little of it has reached those who are in desperate need.

“Every day that the Bush Administration and Republicans in Congress don’t get the rebuilding effort on track is another 24 hours that Katrina victims continue to live the aftermath nightmare. Over 7,500 families are still waiting for their FEMA trailers. Eighty percent of the \$10 billion in disaster loans allocated for small businesses have not been disbursed. Sixty percent of New Orleans is without electricity—and much of the city is without potable running water.

“The nation’s Republican leadership has taken America in the wrong direction. Not only have they failed over the past year to follow through on their promises to help Katrina victims and to rebuild New Orleans and the Gulf Region, but they have failed to prepare us for the next national disaster—either man-made or natural.

“America needs to head in a new direction with new leadership that will be prepared when disaster strikes, and will make it a priority to meet the basic human needs of its citizens by providing them with security, housing, and healthcare swiftly and efficiently.”

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